

In This Issue #90

- University of Tennessee Knoxville Offered to Reinstate Professor Anming Hu
- Advocacy Actions to End the "China Initiative" and Racial Profiling
- Science Reports on Criminal Injustice: Mass Incarceration in the U.S.
- Asian American and Scientific Community News and Events

University of Tennessee Knoxville Offered to Reinstate Professor Anming Hu

On October 15, 2021, Knox News reported that the University of Tennessee at Knoxville has offered to reinstate Professor Anming Hu, the professor who was fired after he was falsely accused of espionage by the U.S. government. In a letter dated October 14, 2021, obtained by Knox News, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor John Zomchick detailed the offer to the world-renowned nanotechnology expert. Read more about the Knox News report: <https://bit.ly/3j9Ts1k>.

Among the provisions, Hu has been offered:

- A tenured faculty position in the Tickle College of Engineering;
- Back pay for the time he was suspended without pay. However, he will not be paid for the time between his termination and his reinstatement;
- Payment for an immigration attorney at the same rate he was paying his original immigration attorney;
- Assistance in helping him reestablish his research program, totaling \$200,000 over three years;
- An explanation of what the university is doing to support his work visa. Hu needs a visa to work at the university because he is a naturalized Canadian citizen.

On October 17, 2021, AP published [University offers to rehire prof acquitted of ties to China](#), which has been picked up by national and local media. Phil Lomonaco, attorney for Professor Hu, has accepted the invitation to provide an update on Professor Hu's situation in the next APA Justice monthly meeting on November 1, 2021.

Read more about the background and developing stories here: https://bit.ly/APAJ_AnmingHu



■ FOR SUBSCRIBERS

UT offers to reinstate professor Anming Hu

UT has come under intense criticism from faculty, academics across the globe and Asian American advocates for firing the world-renowned researcher.

Advocacy Actions to End the "China Initiative" and Racial Profiling

On October 14, 2021, organizers of the Stanford faculty letter and APA Justice launched a nationwide campaign to send a letter to Attorney General Merrick Garland to terminate the "China Initiative" and replace it with an appropriate response that avoids the identified flaws. There are two ways you can support this effort to endorse the Stanford letter:

- Sign on to this campaign before November 3, 2021: <https://bit.ly/EndorseStanfordLetter>
- Follow the Instructions in the Winds of Freedom website on further action to endorse the Stanford letter or send your own letter: <https://bit.ly/38ZxKre>

The Ohio Chinese American Association (俄州亚太联盟) has translated the campaign message into Chinese: [邀请全美大学教职员联署斯坦福给美司法部长的信](#). A Change.org petition is posted at <https://bit.ly/30ukJFj>. This web section on the APA Justice website provides you with background and the latest developments: <https://bit.ly/3Cdda3D>.

In summary, faculty members, scholars, and administrators of universities and educational institutions across the U.S. are urged to [sign on to the APA Justice letter](#) or [organize your own letters](#).



Advancing Justice | AAJC and OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates are launching a Week of Action from November 1 - 5 to end the racial profiling of Asian Americans and Asian immigrants. They will be conducting a series of virtual legislative visits to Congressional and Senate offices to advocate for an end to government profiling of scientists, researchers, and scholars of Asian and Chinese descent. This is how you can get involved:

- Attend training to learn more about how to speak with Congressional offices on this issue. **Sign up for training on Oct. 18 [here](#) or Oct. 26 [here](#).**
- Join the Week of Action virtual meetings with Congressional and Senate offices to share the impact to your local community and your concerns about this issue.
- Lift up stories of Asian Americans and Asian immigrants impacted by racial profiling on social media during the Week of Action. (Social Media Toolkit coming soon)

If you have any questions, please contact Gisela Kusakawa at gakusakawa@advancingjustice-aaajc.org, Vivin Qiang at vqiang@advancingjustice-aaajc.org and Michael Nguyen at michael.nguyen@ocanational.org.

Science Reports on Criminal Injustice: Mass Incarceration in the U.S.

The October 15, 2021 issue of Science has a cover page and a dedicated section on [Criminal Injustice: Mass Incarceration in the U.S.](#) According to the report, with almost 2 million people in confinement, the United States locks up more people per capita than any other nation. Can the largest prison population in the world be attributed to greater criminal behavior by Americans? Not likely, says Science.

Crime rate in the U.S. has steadily declined to a low not seen since the 1970s. Yet the incarcerated population has increased by an estimated 700%. The “get tough” government policies enacted since the 1980s have led to only minor gains in crime reduction. Notably, the majority of incarcerated people in the United States are not charged with violent crimes. Every year, an estimated 13 million misdemeanor charges sweep masses of Americans into the criminal justice system for behaviors as benign as jaywalking, sitting on a sidewalk, or technical parole violations.

Misdemeanor arrests may not sound like a big deal, but they carry serious personal, social, and financial costs, especially for defendants. The policies that have increased the “mass misdemeanor” system have also resulted in the “mass criminalization” of mostly Blacks, Latinos, and the poor for nonviolent misdemeanor violations and drug possession.

There is no simple solution to these problems. A giant step forward would be to better understand how policy and spending sustain the US carceral economy. One would think that insights could be quickly gained given advances in digital technology and the wealth of critical data from many government agencies involved in the justice system. Unfortunately, the data are fragmented across these agencies, ripe with bias, and not designed to help policy-makers or the public understand what is going on.

To date, the government has not defined what a "China Initiative" case is, how many such cases there are, how much resources and taxpayers dollars it has spent, and how effective the program has been since its creation in 2018. [The online Department of Justice report on the "China Initiative"](#) has not been refreshed since June 14, 2021.

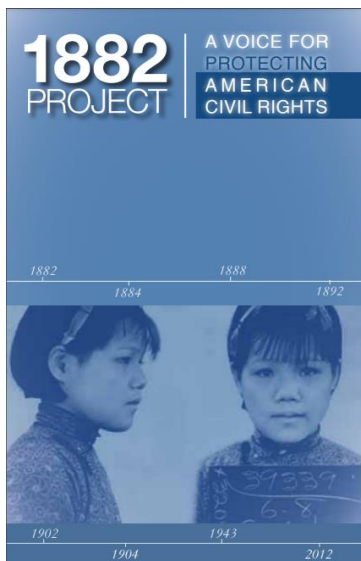


Asian American and Scientific Community News and Events

- **2021/10/19 China Town Hall and UTK Local Webinar.** China Town Hall featuring Fared Zakaria connects leading China experts with Americans around the country for a national conversation on the implications of China’s rise on U.S.-China relations and its

impact on our towns, states, and nation. It will be followed by a panel of three speakers moderated by Shellen Wu, Director of Asian Studies at the University of Tennessee Knoxville. Register here: <https://bit.ly/3j89VTr>

- **National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Resigned.** On October 5, 2021, NIH [announced](#) the resignation of Director Francis Collins by the end of the year, having served three U.S. presidents over more than 12 years. Although Dr. Collins is a widely respected scientist, NIH was tarred by collaborating closely with the FBI and law enforcement under the "China Initiative" with the aggressive lead of Dr. Michael Lauer, Deputy Director of Extramural Research. APA Justice urges the Asian American and scientific communities to be engaged in the appointment of the next NIH Director to ensure that racial profiling policies and practices will not be continued.
- **USC Apologizes to Former Japanese American Students.** On October 14, 2021, the Los Angeles Times reported "USC to apologize for WWII actions that derailed education of Japanese American students." In a policy reversal, University of Southern California will apologize to former Japanese American students and offer them honorary degrees posthumously eight decades after impeding their efforts to complete their education. Read more: <https://lat.ms/3n2vAO4>
- **The 1882 Foundation Awarded a \$500,000 Grant.** On October 11, 2021, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation announced an award of \$500,000 to the 1882 Foundation. The grant will support the expansion of the organization's cultural programming and the transformation of the 1882 Foundation's Chinatown headquarters into a story center and social workspace that will welcome allied non-profit Asian American and Pacific Islander organizations and partners in the Washington, D.C. area. The 1882 Foundation can be traced back to the 1882 Project which was led by five Asian American organizations that resulted in the US Congress expressing regret for the Chinese Exclusion Act via [Senate Resolution 201 in 2011](#) and [House Resolution 282 in 2012](#). Read more about the 1882 Project: <https://bit.ly/3j7StPa>



Subscribe to The APA Justice Newsletter

Complete this simple form at <https://bit.ly/2FJunJM> to subscribe. Please share it with those who wish to be informed and join the fight. View past newsletters here: https://bit.ly/APAJ_Newsletters.

Copyright © 2021 APA Justice, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in or have expressed interest.

Our mailing address is:

APA Justice
P.O. Box 257
McLean, VA 22101-0257

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

We do not share, sell, rent or trade any of your information with third parties unless you provide explicit consent. [Read our Privacy Policy here](#).